[0030] On the other hand, when the motion vector replacement unit 121 does not receive, from the skip judgment unit 120, a notice indicating that a current macroblock to be coded should be processed as a skip macroblock, in Step 30, it outputs, to the variable length coding unit 110, the motion vector outputted from the motion vector estimation unit 102 (Step 34). When the motion vector replacement unit 121 judges in Step 31 that the current macroblock is included in a P picture, the motion vector replacement unit 121 outputs, to the variable length coding unit 110, "0" that indicates a motion vector of no direction nor magnitude, instead of the motion vector outputted from the motion vector estimation unit 102 (Step 32).